NOTE ON THE EFFECT OF CERTAIN VARIATIONS OF THE NUTRIENT MEDIUM ON THE GROWTH OF THE TYPHOID BACILLUS.

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PROFESSOR E. J. MCWEENEY, stated that the results of a series of experimental cultures made by him, and exhibited at last meeting, went to show that (*a*) the growth improved with increasing addition of $\frac{N}{10}$NaOH to the unneutralised gelatine up to the beginning of alkalinity (indicator phenolphthalein); (*b*) the addition of salt in quantities varying from 0·1 to 1 per cent. to the fully-neutralised gelatine (same indicator) made no difference in the amount of growth; (*c*) the omission of both salt and peptone exercised no appreciably unfavourable influence on the growth in gelatine made with meat decoction; (*d*) addition of quantities of phenol to gelatine in the proportion ·05 to ·5 per cent. exercised an inhibitory influence on all growths when the addition exceeded ·07 per cent.; between ·05 and ·07 the effect was to check the anærobic growth; and (*e*) Parietti's solution added to ordinary bouillon suppressed the growth of typhoid when coli was also present. The addition of 9 drops (0·3 c.c.) to 10 c.c. bouillon, to which was subsequently added a few drops of a mixture containing both typhoid and coli (*e.g.*, bile from a patient dead of typhoid), caused such retardation of the growths produced by plating out the tube on gelatine as to make them closely resemble true typhoid colonies. Tests, however, proved that nothing but coli grew in the Parietti tube, although ordinary agar plates from the same material yielded an abundance of typhoid colonies. It was on the suppression of typhoid by the Parietti test that the speaker desired to lay especial stress.